



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue
Third Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

June 14, 2018

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: LANDING LIMIT REDUCTION FOR THE 2018 VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB HAND HARVEST FISHERY EFFECTIVE 12 NOON, FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2018

It has been projected that 80% of the horseshoe crab commercial hand harvest quota has been harvested. For that reason, it shall be unlawful for any valid commercial Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Permittee to possess aboard any vessel or to land more than 250 horseshoe crabs per 24-hour period that extends from 12 noon on one day to 12 noon the following day. These regulatory requirements shall be effective 12 noon, Friday, June 15, 2018.

Therefore, after 12 noon, Friday, June 15, 2018, it shall be unlawful for any Horseshoe Crab Hand Harvest Permittees to possess aboard any vessel or land more than 250 horseshoe crabs per 24-hour period that extends from 12 noon on one day to 12 noon the following day (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have questions or comments contact Adam Kenyon (757) 247-8068.